

[Sri R. Venkataraman] [29th January 1966]

When this Government were apprised of the present difficulties facing the Match Industry, they held discussion with the representatives of the Western India Match Company and Mettur Chemicals. The Government of India also appear to be aware of the situation and are considering the question of getting clearance for the import of electrodes and Potassium Chloride, the non-availability of which has created problems for the manufacture of Potassium Chlorate. The three producers have been requested to step up production of Potassium Chlorate and distribute the produce among the various match factories on the basis of their excise returns in order to ensure an equitable distribution. Mettur Chemicals who had stopped production of Potassium Chlorate are resuming production immediately, and with that the position is expected to improve. Enquiries reveal that with the producers themselves having taken up distribution of the Chemical through their depots, the position has already eased a little.

As for Red Phosphorous, its import is governed by the licensing procedure for 1965-66. The sponsoring authorities can sponsor applications for import of this material only within the foreign exchange ceiling for the State, which has not yet been specified so far. The allocation is awaited from the Government of India and as soon as it is known, the import application will be forwarded to the Government of India.

V.—ANNOUNCEMENTS

(1) PANEL OF CHAIRMEN

MR. SPEAKER: I have to announce to the House that under Rule 14 (1) of the Madras Legislative Assembly Rules, I have nominated the following six members of the Assembly to be the Panel of Chairmen for the present sitting of the Legislative Assembly :—

1. Sri S. Ramaswami Naidu
2. Srimathi P. K. R. Lakshminikantham
3. Sri C. Chiranjeevulu Naidu
4. Sri M. V. Karivengadam
5. Sri T. Karcha Gowder
6. Sri M. Dhandayuthapani

VI—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS UNIVERSITY AMENDMENT BILL, 1965 (L.A. BILL NO. 42 OF 1965).

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, I beg to present the report ^a of the Joint Select Committee on the Madras University (Amendment) Bill, 1965 (L.A. Bill No. 42 of 1965).